

Please amend claims 4 and 8 as follows:

C2
B1

4. (Amended) ~~An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:~~

- ~~(a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;~~
- ~~(b) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:1; and~~
- ~~(c) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(b).~~

B2 C3

8. (Amended) ~~A nucleic acid vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.~~

Please add the following new claims 24-28:

gob C4 1 -- 24. A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 9 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.

25. An isolated polynucleotide consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

B3 26. The vector of claim 8, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, a virus, and a bacteriophage.

27. The vector of claim 8, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

28. The vector of claim 27, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence. --